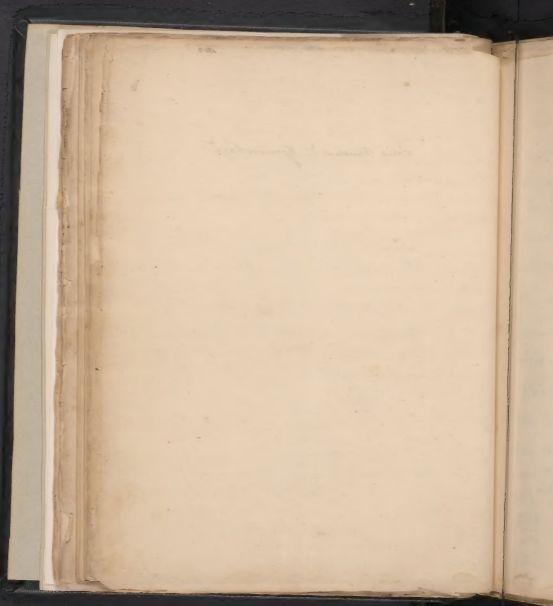


*Lus. Numerus & Gonorrhoea*



The first of these is the  
fact that the number of  
cases of smallpox in the  
United States has been  
steadily increasing since  
1880. This is due to the  
fact that the disease is  
now more common than  
it was in 1880. The  
reason for this is that  
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That law rendering it necessary that every  
candidate for Medical Honours should fur-  
nish a paper on some subject relative to that  
science to which his life is devoted; has in-  
duced me to offer this feeble effort of youthful  
inexperience; not an expectation that a subject  
involved in more than Tartarian darkness,  
a subject which the most penetrating eye of  
Genius has assailed in vain, would yield to  
me its arcanæ —

That leucism and gonorrhoea invade  
the world at the same time, that nei-  
ther has existed at any time nor in any  
country to the exclusion of the other, that  
they are acquired in the same way, that  
they originally owe their being to the  
same cause and that now the same  
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Poison produces the various forms of gonorrhoea, chancres, bubo, blotches &c. The following pages are designed to prove —

The investigation of the original cause of venereal disease is from its nature subjected to peculiar difficulty; the suspicion that no cause yet early existed, in the minds of those affected by it of the mode of its production operates strongly to induce necessity —

But from the mode of introduction of other diseases, from the particular symptoms subsisting to the action of various causes & the various forms of disease resulting from the same cause, we are authorized to form conclusions —

Long experience has afforded sufficient evidence that venereal diseases are caused by

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by marshmiasmata. That the typhus or jail  
fever is the product of idio miasmata occurre-  
• later, in confined situations, that scabies and nu-  
• merous varieties of eruption arise on the skin from  
inattention to cleanliness, are we not then sup-  
ported by the most unequivocal & satisfactory  
analogical evidence in the conclusion that  
lues venerea in all its forms acquired its ex-  
istence from inattention to that most precious  
requisite to our health and beauty, cleanliness,  
and that it is the offspring of no particu-  
• lar climate, but like the yellow fever con-  
• tensive as its cause, that where marshmiasmata  
is sufficiently powerful there will be yellow  
fever, where prostitution becomes a trade & is  
frequently repeated in the midst of filthi-  
• ness there will be lues venerea in some of  
its forms affirming that form which  
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the first of the month, I have been thinking  
much of the state of the country, and  
how much it has improved since I last  
visited it. The air is now so pure and  
the water so sweet, that I am almost  
tempted to stay here. The people are  
very kind and hospitable, and I have  
been very much pleased to see them.  
The country is now so fertile, that I  
am almost tempted to stay here. The  
people are very kind and hospitable,  
and I have been very much pleased  
to see them. The country is now so  
fertile, that I am almost tempted to  
stay here. The people are very kind  
and hospitable, and I have been very  
much pleased to see them. The country  
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tempted to stay here. The people are  
very kind and hospitable, and I have  
been very much pleased to see them.

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The pro-Sicilian force of the cause & the susceptibility of the parts acted on in most favourable  
to. We have intermittents fever ague, & other  
fever & from the same cause —

With a view to the illumination of the fact  
that a certain titration of parts may exist  
not themselves diseased, yet capable of pro-  
ducing disease in parts brought in contact  
with them, a fact well adapted to the illu-  
stration of the original formation of the disease.

I shall recite a case or two from Mr. Thwaites  
treated on his venereal —

A married man who had only had con-  
summation with his wife for several  
years, slept with a woman with whom  
he had formerly cohabited. He gave  
him a severe gonorrhoea, & declared that  
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she was not conscious of being diseased.  
He put himself and her under my care; and  
while they were going on with their cure they  
still continued their intercourse, which  
I readily allowed. He got well and it was  
supposed she got well also. The intercourse  
was continued for many months after,  
without any mischievous result on  
his side, or any suspicion of remaining dis-  
ease on hers —

At last this communication was broken off  
and she formed another attachment. She  
no sooner formed this new attachment than  
she gave her new lover a gonorrhoea; she now  
flung to me for a cure, and declared that  
she had no connection but with the two  
gentlemen before mentioned; and she gave  
that the present disease must be the same  
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for which I had attended her some y<sup>r</sup>. Her second  
lover was not a patient of mine but I gave her  
medicines which she very much neglected  
taking. Her lover continued his connection as  
the first had done for several months after  
he had got well, without any further in-  
jection from her; but unfortunately her  
first lover returned a bout a twelve month  
after; and thinking himself secure as she  
lived in peace with the present, renewed  
his acquaintance with her and but once  
the consequence however was a Gonorrhoea.  
The case of a young woman from the Nagoa.  
in the jail is particularly in point. she  
was received into that institution where she  
remained two years. The summer she  
came out she was picked up by a person  
waiting with a port chair to carry her to

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In the case of these women dysentery did not manifest  
than does yellow fever or hydrophobia in those who  
are saturated with the miasmatic poison, or  
those in whom the hydrophobic cause has not  
yet produced the active dysentery —

Had intercourse been had with these women by  
men equally pregnant with the diseased cause  
could life then less venereal have resulted?

Had as in the example furnished by the illus-  
trious Professor of the Institutes & Practice of  
Medicine in his own case, during the prevalence  
of the bilious remitting or yellow fever, so  
completely was his system saturated by  
the dysentery cause that himself abounded a  
very pungent odor arising from his hands.  
Had even a moderate irritant not to mention  
an additional dose of the poison acted on  
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his system in its then state, would not the fever  
most undoubtedly have ensued?

Should it be enquired why did not this disease  
make its appearance during a more early period  
of the world if it depends for its being on fil-  
thiness and prostitution? Why did not the  
luxury and dissipation of the Eastern world  
give being to it? If the custom of general  
ublation which appears at an early period to  
have prevailed those countries should not  
be considered as affording a satisfactory ex-  
planation. I can only answer that Panama  
did not deem it sufficient to empty her  
chest at once. And enquire why did the  
Plague at certain irregular periods visit most  
countries of the old world? Was at a recent  
date did the influenza make such ravages  
sweep thro' our own continent?

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It would seem that the varied operation of millions  
of causes not only produces in our systems pecu-  
-liar susceptibilities but also new causes which acting  
on these susceptibilities give origin to new dis-  
-eases —

That lues venerea and gonorrhoea have neither at  
any time nor in any country existed to the ex-  
-clusion of the other is strongly inferred from the  
fact: that notwithstanding the most assiduous  
-execution of the most accomplished talents no sub-  
-stantial evidence has been adduced in favour  
of the opinion. Mr. Benjamin Bell it is true  
mentions a dispute prevailing in the highlands  
of Scotland under the name of subbing which  
he presumes to be lues venerea; but the almost  
only evidence which he produces in favour  
of the opinion is the shame of the people  
affected by it. The same evidence would prove

Scabies

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Scabies to be but one —

That both forms of the disease are acquired in the same way and frequently at the same time the united testimony of all authors & all observers declares. I shall therefore under this head simply remark that the sameness of their production is no feeble evidence of their identity of cause —

In favour of the opinion that the same poison produces the various forms of gonorrhoea, chancre, bubo, &c. &c. I shall notice the expressions of Mr Hunter —

Two punctures were made on the penis with a lancet dipped in gonorrhoeal matter, inflammation & ulceration ensued first in the prepuce & afterwards in the glans. By touching the ulcerated surface with caustic & applying them with a common instrument they after sometime healed —

Four months after the chancre on the penis broke out

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very stimulating applications were tried, but seem  
not to agree with it, & nothing living applied it heal-  
ed up. This several times took place but always  
healed without any application —

While the sore remained on the prepuce & glans  
a swelling took place in one of the <sup>3</sup>glands  
of the right groin, after the sore was healed  
mercury was rubbed in on the leg & thigh of the  
affected side; in a few days the gland subsi-  
ded to a considerable degree, the mercury was  
omitted —

After sometime the gland again swelled, a  
sufficiency of mercury was then rubbed in for  
its entire reduction —

About two months after the last attack of the  
bub a sharp prickling pain was felt in one  
of the breasts on swallowing & on examination  
a small ulcer discovered, which was permitted  
to proceed till its nature was discovered; recourse  
was

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was then had to mercury and continued till the  
ulcer had skinned over, and omitted —

About three months after copper coloured  
blotches broke out on the skin, & the former  
ulcer returned on the tonsil. Mercury was  
again had recourse to, the symptoms disappeared  
but again returned in the same parts. Mercury  
was now given with a view to a perfect cure —

At this time the experiments occupied from the  
instituted of the matter till the completion  
of the cure was about three years —

There then we have experiments instituted by  
Mr. Hunter himself & conducted under his own  
immediate eye, proving as satisfactorily as ex-  
periment can prove any thing —

- 1<sup>st</sup> That gonorrhoeal matter did produce chancre.
- 2<sup>d</sup> That larks did succeed to the chancre.
- 3<sup>d</sup> That ulcerated tonsil with venereal affect  
superinduced the larks —

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4<sup>th</sup> That blotches next appeared

That all these symptoms were subdued by  
the partial use of mercury, & finally cured  
by its more liberal exhibition —

The following case related by Dr. Barton in his 11<sup>th</sup> of  
lectures whilst it does honour to his candour appears  
strong evidence in favour of the opinions I have  
advanced —

A young man placed himself under the Dr's care  
with a gonorrhoea, which was in a short time sup-  
pressed; a venereal inflammation of the throat suc-  
ceeded this was removed by astringent gargles;  
when the discharge from the urethra again re-  
turned. Astringent injections were again had  
recourse to with the effect of suspending the  
discharge; but on its removal the ulcer of the throat  
again returned & was finally cured by a mer-  
curial salivation —

When the accuracy and ability of the observer are  
taken

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text appears to be organized into several paragraphs.]*

*[Faint handwritten notes on the right margin, possibly from an adjacent page.]*

taken into consideration; when it is considered also  
that the opinions of the F. are repugnant to the  
unity of the diocese, we cannot too much appre-  
ciate the force of evidence furnished by this fact.

I now Gentlemen submit to your examination  
this effort of penitence, of excessive anxiety, and  
of haste; that you will view its errors with the  
eye of mildness, that lenity will operate more  
powerfully than rigour is the mirror afford-  
ing me the brightest prospect for futurity.

Informed and Indolent

Wells

Received

March 9<sup>th</sup>  
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